# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# POWER
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:827
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2007
PGCIL IN TELECOM SECTOR
Vijay Krishna Shri

**Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Power Grid Corporation of India is involved in telecom sector in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the investment made by the PGCIL therein, till date?

## Answer

THE MINISTER OF POWER ( SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE )

(a) & (b) : Yes, Sir. Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. (PGCIL) entered the telecom business in the year 2001 after getting approval from the Government of India in October, 1998. Subsequently, the PGCIL obtained Infrastructure Provider-II (IP-II) License from Department of Telecommunications in January, 2001 to provide end-to-end bandwidth and also obtained an Internet Service Provider (ISP) Category `A` license in May, 2003 to provide internet Services. In July, 2006, the PGCIL obtained a National Long Distance Operator (NLDO) License to facilitate increase in its customer base by directly reaching establishments such as Government Agencies/departments, Defence Services and Corporates etc. Presently, the PGCIL has a backbone network of about 20,000 kms all over the country with a footprint in about 60 cities.

(c) : Government of India has approved implementation of the project `Establishment of Backbone Telecom Network for Telecommunication Business` project at an estimated cost of Rs.934.23 crore by the PGCIL.